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1. Sometime in 1948 a former branch plant of Asid, located in West Berlin, was expropriated by the Allied powers, under the regulations of Military Government Laws, and a trusteeship was established for its administration. The Dessau plant, hitherto the main branch of the Asid plants, was immediately seized by the Soviet authorities and as "Asid Serum-Institute"--without GmbH--was placed under the management of the VVB (Vereinigung Volkseigener Betriebe--Association of People's Owned Plants) Pharma in Halle. By this administrative action, fmu Duebler, director of the Pharma VVB and Dr. fmu Herbert, his technical manager, virtually became the supreme managing authorities of the Asid Serum-Institute in Dessau. At first, the management staff of the Pharma VVB Asid Serum-Institute in Dessau was not changed. Professor Dr. phil. habil. Christoph Grundmann, [REDACTED] remained director, Werner Dalchow remained commercial manager, and Professor Dr. med. vet. habil. Heinz Roehrer remained technical manager and licensee of the institute. Professor Roehrer is presently technical chief of the Biological Research Institute on Riems Island.
2. In time it became more and more evident that the enormous Pharma concern was not able to supply the Dessau Asid Serum Institute with the necessary raw materials within a reasonable amount of time, in spite of the fact that most of the pharmaceutical plants in the East Zone were under the control of the Pharma concern. Due to its widely ramified and diverse production, Pharma was also unable, on short notice, to adapt the production targets to the change of requirements.
3. After sharp disputes and extensive bargaining between Werner Dalchow, the commercial manager of the Dessau Asid Serum-Institute, and the Pharma management staff, the Dessau Asid Serum-Institute together with the Jenapharm in Jena, were finally taken out of the Pharma organization and were set up as independent people's owned plants (VEB). These plants were then placed directly under the control of the Ministry for Heavy Industries. A short time ago, the name of the institute was deprived of its personal character and the Asid "Bear" trade-mark

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was also eliminated. The plant was then designated as "Serum-Werk VEB, Dessau" and was given the "gear with crossed hammers" insignia of the other people's owned plants. With the SED-policy becoming more rigorous, it could be seen that reactionary personnel on the management staff of the plant would be no longer tolerated but soon replaced by those personnel "faithful to the party line". The Pharma together with the Ministry for Heavy Industries was aware of the fact that the management staff of the Dessau Institute, including Dr. Georg Saxinger, head of the Scientific Research and Promotional Department, was most unreliable from the standpoint of the SED.

4. While the political situation was pending, Professor Roehrer and Dr. Saxinger attempted to transform the Institute into a state serum institute. On one occasion they negotiated along these lines with Professor Dr. med. vet. Martin Lerche, head of the Central Testing Institute for Veterinary Vaccines. Professor Lerche is now Dean of the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, Free University, Berlin. The transformation of the Asid Serum-Institute into a state institute was not possible for the following reasons:

- (1) The Institute's main source of income was the production of pharmaceuticals
- (2) the Institute was producing sera and vaccines for both human and veterinary medicines
- (3) the Institute was administratively part of both the Ministry of Public Health and the Ministry of Agriculture.

Because of these conditions, Professor Dr. Grundmann gladly accepted a call to the position of Director of the Second Chemical Institute of Humboldt University in Berlin.

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Professor Roehrer was delighted to take over the management of the Biological Research Institute on Riems Island. By this he hoped to remove himself from the political turmoil. Soon thereafter, W. Dalchow was compelled to transfer from his position as commercial manager of the Dessau Institute to the position of commercial manager of the Chemical Factory in Greiz.

5. The door was now open for complete SED guidance of the Asid Serum Institute. The first director was Herr fmu Rau, who, before or during the war, had worked in the files of the Asid Serum Institute of East Prussia. The completely SED-adjusted personnel manager, fmu Freeze, was appointed Rau's plant aide. Dr. fmu Kriebel replaced Dalchow as the Dessau Institute's commercial manager. This was shortly after Kriebel had been trained at the Academy for Administration in Forst Zinna. It is hard to determine if Kriebel is, or ever was, a Communist.

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6. Upon leaving the Dessau plant, Professor Roehrer appointed Dr. med.vet. Alfred Heinig⁵⁷ to the office of technical manager, a position he still holds. As technical manager of the plant, Heinig is also deputy plant manager. Dr. Heinig was Scientific Consultant (Wissenschaftlicher Rat) of the original staff on Riems Island for approximately ten to fifteen years. While on Riems Island he was more active in the production of MKS¹⁰ vaccines than in scientific research on vaccines.

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7. Dr. fmu Hill, deputy technical manager, is considered to be the most able bacteriologist at the Dessau Institute.

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Dr. Hill is working on the breeding of virus Geflügelpest (a contagious disease in poultry); in the production of purified tuberculin (Weybridge tuberculin); and, together with Candidate rerum naturalium Jentrusch, on the cold-drying of coli and abortus bacteria.

8. A complete outsider in the ranks of the academic personnel at the Dessau Institute is physician-bacteriologist Dr. med. Koeppe. In spite of warnings by Professor Dr. med. habil. Georg Wildfuehr¹³ (Hygienic Institute of Leipzig University) and other objections made by Dr. Heinig and others, Dr. Koeppe was called to the Institute by plant manager Rau and personnel manager Freeze.

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9. Approximately three years ago, Professor Grundmann hired micro-biologist cand. rer. nat. Jentrusch as a junior bacteriologist.

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10. All of the above mentioned persons are working in the various production departments of the Dessau Institute; namely, Dr. Heinig, Dr. Hill, Dr. Koeppe, and the candidate for Doctor's degree, Jentrusch.

11. The following persons are working in the various research departments of the Dessau Institute: Fräulein Dr. rer. nat. Ilse Boettger, chemist; Dr. Reinhardt Voulieme, chemist; and Fräulein Dr. Luise Harm, biologist.

12. Fräulein Dr. rer. nat. Boettger was hired, three to four years ago, by Dr. Grundmann. She was employed to work on the purification and concentration of serum.

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13. Dr. Voulieme, formerly on the staff of the Dessau sugar refinery (hydrocyanic acid production), was also hired by Professor Grundmann.

He is working on general chemical tasks

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and produces chemicals on a small scale.

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14. Frieda Dr. Harm comes from the teaching profession. She has been a noted spider specialist for approximately fifty years. She was hired by Dr. Saxinger to work in fermentation and hormone research. She came to the Institute after finding continued service in the teaching profession no longer endurable. While at the Institute, Dr. Harm worked on standardizing the hormone of the posterior lobe of the pituitary gland and on the development and testing of hyaluronidase. 14/

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15. August Leitz, a non-academic chemist, is a member of the Dessau Institute's production department.

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He is presently working in the section for the drying of bacteria and is the only specialist at the Institute able to establish and operate a large drying department. Leitz is a dangerously versatile man, strongly pro-SED, a party member, and wears the badge for meritorious VEB plant employees.

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PERSONALITIES WHO ARE SPECIALISTS AT FIELD STATIONS

16. Dr. med. vet. fnu Rumpf is head of the Serum Station in Tornau vor der Elbe (14 kilometers from the Institute).

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17. Dr. med. veterinarian Peter Stoehr is head of the Serum Station in Rottenau (Knotlauchhof) 15/ near Loburg (52.07N/12.04E), Magdeburg district (55 kms. from Dessau).

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He was formerly producing immunization serum for swine fever (hog cholera), and for the past three or four years, has been producing red murrain (swine erysipelas) serum from pigs. Dr. Stoehr has always fulfilled his duties well.

18. Dr. Ing. fnu Rogler, a chemist, is head of both the Inspection Department and of the Department for Apprentice Training.

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[REDACTED] COMMENTS:

- 1/ VEB means "Volkseigener Betrieb" --People's Owned Plants.
- 2/ Born in Nurenberg and was formerly a chemist at Leverkusen.
- 3/ "Dr. habil" is derived from habilitieren--Habilitation, which is German academic language meaning "the passage through the procedure for being admitted as an academic teacher." This usually consists of submitting a "Habilitationsschrift" (type of dissertation), in undergoing an examination, and in delivering an habilitation lecture. After one has taken a Doctor's degree, a graduate license to teach at the University is granted by the university faculty. This degree, Dr. habil., is granted on the basis of a special dissertation, the publication of a number of papers relating to research, and the delivery of a formal probationary lecture.
- 4/ A brief biography of Dr. Grundmann is given on page 968 of the "Handbuch der Deutschen Wissenschaft".
- 5/ Socialistische Einheitspartei Deutschlands
- 6/ A brief biography of Dr. Lerche is given in column 1205 of "Kuerschner's Deutscher Gelehrten Kalender 1950" and on page 1126 of "Handbuch der Deutschen Wissenschaft".
- 7/ Rau, after the war, became Chief of Police of Erfurt, holding the rank of lieutenant.

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- 8/ Freeze [REDACTED] was police lieutenant of Dessau-Rosslau; according to other reports he was only a police sergeant.
- 9/ He returned to Riems Island in mid-1952 for permanent reemployment.
- 10/ Maul und Klauen Seuche i.e. foot and mouth disease.

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- 12/ Since Heinig's departure in mid-1952, Hill has become technical manager.
- 13/ A brief biography of Dr. Wildfuehr is given in column 2273 of "Kuerschner's Deutscher Gelehrten Kalender 1950" and on pages 1430-1431 of "Handbuch der Deutschen Wissenschaft".
- 14/ An enzyme present in testis, sperm, bee and snake venoms, and in certain bacteria, which hydrolyzes hyaluronic acid.
- 15/ She was a former member of the famous Thomanner Chor, a singing group of Leipzig.
- 16/ Knoblauchhof literally means garlic farm.

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